

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 RSR-01 /159 W

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R 301345Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7653

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1652

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS CY

SUBJECT: WRAP-UP OF WEEKEND EVENTS

REF: NICOSIA 1643, 1642, 1641

1. PAST THREE NIGHTS SOME 70 BOMB BLASTS BY BOTH PRO AND ANTI-GRIVAS ELEMENTS HAVE STRUCK CYPRUS' MAJOR CITIES. NO CASUALTIES. MOST SERIOUS EVENT PAST THREE NIGHTS WAS ATTACK ON LARNACA ROAD STATION IN NICOSIA (NICOSIA 1643), FOR WHICH THREE POLICEMEN NOW UNDER DETENTION AND INTERROGATION. TO DATE, WHEREABOUTS OF KIDNAPPED MINISTER JUSTICE VAKIS UNKNOWN, NOR HAS GRIVAS CAMP MADE PUBLIC ANY DEMANDS FOR HIS RELEASE. NOTE LEFT IN PUBLIC PHONE BOOTH ASSURES WIFE HE IS IN GOOD HEALTH. POLICE GUARDYBQAVPOSTED ON EACH MINISTER.

2. AMBASSADOR TOLD BY GEORGE PELAGHIAS KIDNAP ATTEMPTS WERE DIRECTED ALSO AGAINST MINISTERS COLOCASSIDES AND GEORGE IOANNIDES. NEITHER SUCCEEDED BECAUSE FORMER OUT OF CITY
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WITH FAMILY AT TIME AND LATTER'S ALERT WIFE LIED TO WOULD-

BE ABDUCTORS THAT HUSBAND NOT AT HOME WHEN THEY APPROACHED HOUSE. PELAGHIAS ALSO STRESSED THAT MAKARIOS WILL NOT BEND TO PRESSURE. HIS TOUGH STATEMENT ON VAKIS ABDUCTION WOULD SUPPORT THIS. HOWEVER, GREEK DCM MADE POINT OF TELLING GRANT THAT MAKARIOS UNDER PRESSURE FROM SUPPORTERS TO AVOID FURTHER TENSIONS WITHIN CHURCH AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE ARCHBISHOP WILL NOT PUSH ISSUE TO FORCIBLE EJECTION OF BISHOPS FROM DIOCESES.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH CONTINUING SEARCHES, GOC ARRESTED NEARLY 30 PERSONS, INCLUDING EIGHT NEWSPAPERMEN. AMONG LATTER WERE PUBLISHER AND EDITOR "ETHNIKI". ALSO DETAINED WERE SOCRATES ELIADES, GRIVAS FINANCIAL BACKER, AND RENOS KYRIAKIDES, BROTHER OF DEPOSED BISHOP OF KYRENIA. PRO-MAKARIOS THUGS VISITED "ETHNIKI" AND "GNOMI" PRINTING ESTABLISHMENTS SATURDAY NIGHT, ROUGHING UP EMPLOYEES AND DESTROYING SOME TYPESETTING EQUIPMENT. NEITHER PAPER HAS APPEARED SINCE.

4. ELECTION AND ENTHRONEMENT NEW PAPHOS BISHOP CHRYSOSTOMOS PROCEEDED SMOOTHLY OVER WEEKEND. MAKARIOS NOTED IN FORMAL ADDRESS THAT CHRYSOSTOMOS ELECTION WAS FIRST STEP IN PURGE OF CYPRUS CHURCH. IN MAIDEN ADDRESS, CHRYSOSTOMOS LAUDED "HOLY CAUSE OF ENOSIS" AND ATTACKED THOSE WHO UNDERMINED THIS CAUSE THROUGH SUCH ACTS AS BLOWING UP POLICE STATIONS, ETC. HE CALLED UPON DISLOYAL PRIESTS (BUT NOT UPON BISHOPS) TO RETURN TO FLOCK, WARNING THAT HE WOULD DISCIPLINE FIRMLY ANY INTRANSIGENTS.

5. WORTH NOTING THAT RESUMPTION VIOLENCE FOLLOWED GREEK AMB. LAGACOS RETURN FROM ATHENS JULY 25. GRIVASIST ACTIVITY PROBABLY RESULTED IN PART FROM NEED TO REACT TO SEARCHES AND ARRESTS IN LIMASSOL, BUT PERHAPS ALSO REFLECTED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT LAGACOS BROUGHT NO HELP FROM ATHENS. GREEK DCM TELLS US THAT "PEOPLE" HERE DISAPPOINTED BECAUSE ATHENS WAS EXPECTED TO TAKE SOME POSITION, WHEREAS IN FACT IT URGES MODERATION BUT UNWILLING TO ADVOCATE ANY SPECIFIC SOLUTION.

6. AFTERNOON PAPER CARRIES BRIEF REPORT OF UNSUCCESSFUL GRIVASIST ATTACK ON ARCHBISHOP'S MOUNTAIN RETREAT. IF THIS WAS A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ATTACK HIM, COULD BE NEW BALL GAME. CONFIDENTIAL

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MAKARIOS NOT PRESENT, BUT COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO STAY THERE EN ROUTE HOME FROM PAPHOS. WILL REPORT AS INCIDENT CLARIFIED.

7. WE INCLINED T CREDIT PRESS REPORTS SUGGESTING RESUMPTION INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS LATER THIS WEEK NOW "PROBLEMATIC" IN LIGHT NEW WAVE OF VIOLENCE. MCCLOSKEY

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